

Global Challenge States

Success in the new world requires innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship, and commercialization of new technologies—all of which rely on educated citizens. In 2002, the Progressive Policy Institute published a New Economy Index which ranked states based on indicators of their potential to perform in the new economy. To measure our ability to stay competitive in the global economy, Washington Learns identified a group of comparison states from the index to use for benchmarks. These 10 Global Challenge States (GCS) include the eight states that top the list on the Progressive Policy Institute's New Economy Index and two other states with economic characteristics that are similar to Washington but that are farther down the list on the NEI. (<http://www.neweconomyindex.org/>)

Global Challenge States—Demographic Information

	GCS Ranking	Population (2005)	Percent in Urbanized Area (2000)	Average Wage (2004)	Poverty Rate: Under 5 Years (2000)	Speak English less than "Very Well": Age 5-17 (2000)	Children in Home where Head of Household is a High School Dropout
Massachusetts	1	5,600,388	88.8%	\$47,876	12.4%	5.5%	10%
Washington	2	6,287,759	73.0%	\$40,299	15.9%	5.3%	12%
California	3	36,132,147	88.4%	\$44,028	20.4%	16.4%	25%
Colorado	4	4,665,177	74.7%	\$39,624	12.7%	5.7%	16%
Maryland	5	6,398,743	80.2%	\$42,110	11.7%	3.4%	11%
New Jersey	6	8,717,925	92.2%	\$47,239	11.5%	6.6%	11%
Connecticut	7	3,510,297	83.6%	\$49,941	11.3%	5.1%	9%
Virginia	8	7,567,465	66.6%	\$40,335	13.2%	3.4%	13%
Minnesota	13	5,132,799	55.1%	\$39,551	10.6%	3.9%	8%
North Carolina	26	8,683,242	46.7%	\$34,364	17.9%	3.6%	17%

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Early Learning Comparisons

Pre-K Spending (millions) (2005)

New Jersey	\$432.3
California	\$264.4
Massachusetts.....	\$68.6
North Carolina	\$49.4
Connecticut	\$48.6
Virginia.....	\$35.3
Washington	\$30.0
Colorado	\$27.1
Minnesota.....	\$17.1
Maryland	\$16.9

State Pre-K Spending per Child (2005)

New Jersey	\$9,305
Minnesota.....	\$6,929
Connecticut	\$6,663
Massachusetts.....	\$4,848
Washington	\$4,710
North Carolina	\$4,058
Virginia.....	\$3,420
California	\$3,218
Colorado	\$3,078
Maryland	\$721

of Programs Accredited by National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) (2006)

Massachusetts.....	"1,432"
California	991
Connecticut	552
New Jersey	339
Minnesota.....	214
Virginia.....	207
North Carolina	195
Colorado	184
Maryland	167
Washington	163

Children Enrolled in Nursery School or Preschool (Ages 3-4) (2004)

Virginia.....	76.00%
New Jersey	63.00%
Connecticut	60.00%
Massachusetts.....	57.00%
Maryland	49.00%
California	45.00%
North Carolina	44.00%
Minnesota.....	40.00%
Colorado	38.00%
Washington	37.00%

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Total Child Care Spending from TANF and CCDBG Federal Grants per Child under 13 Years (2004)

Massachusetts	\$388.94
California	\$344.46
Washington	\$291.75
North Carolina	\$257.12
Minnesota	\$204.27
Connecticut	\$197.82
New Jersey	\$152.81
Colorado	\$145.96
Maryland	\$145.11
Virginia.....	\$137.81

Children Served under TANF and CCDBG Block Grants as a Percentage of All Children under 13 Years (2004)

North Carolina	6.50%
Washington	5.20%
Massachusetts.....	3.40%
Minnesota.....	2.50%
New Jersey	2.50%
Maryland	2.40%
Colorado	2.40%
California	2.30%
Virginia.....	2.10%
Connecticut	1.80%

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K-12 Comparisons

Current Expenditure per Student (2004-05 School Year)

New Jersey	\$13,370
Connecticut	\$11,893
Massachusetts.....	\$11,681
Maryland	\$9,762
Minnesota.....	\$9,249
Virginia.....	\$8,577
Colorado	\$8,337
Washington	\$7,858
California	\$7,815
North Carolina	\$7,350

Student-Teacher Ratios in Public K-12 Schools (2004-05 School Year)

Virginia.....	11.8
New Jersey	12.7
Connecticut	13.3
Massachusetts.....	14.6
North Carolina	14.8
Maryland	15.4
Minnesota.....	16
Colorado	17
Washington	19.3
California	19.9

Average Teacher Salaries (2004-05 School Year)

Connecticut	\$58,688
California	\$57,876
New Jersey	\$56,682
Massachusetts.....	\$54,325
Maryland	\$52,331
Minnesota.....	\$46,906
Washington	\$45,724
Virginia.....	\$44,763
Colorado	\$43,949
North Carolina	\$43,348

Percent of Teachers with Master's or Higher

Connecticut	83.30%
Massachusetts.....	61.40%
Maryland	54.70%
Colorado	54.20%
Washington	54.00%
Minnesota.....	45.60%
Virginia.....	44.60%
New Jersey	41.60%
California	38.50%
North Carolina	32.50%

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Percent Proficient: 8th Grade Math (NAEP) (2005)

Massachusetts	43%
Minnesota	43%
Washington	36%
New Jersey	36%
Connecticut	35%
Virginia	33%
Colorado	32%
North Carolina	32%
Maryland	30%
California	22%

Percent Proficient: 4th Grade Reading (NAEP) (2005)

Massachusetts	44%
Connecticut	38%
Minnesota	38%
New Jersey	37%
Virginia	37%
Colorado	37%
Washington	36%
Maryland	32%
North Carolina	29%
California	21%

Percent of Students Who Took an AP Exam in High School (2005)

Maryland	31.5%
California	30.2%
Virginia	30.1%
North Carolina	29.7%
Colorado	26.7%
Massachusetts	26.2%
Connecticut	26.0%
New Jersey	23.0%
Washington	21.1%
Minnesota	17.6%

Percent of Students Who Scored 3+ on an AP Exam in High School (2005)

Maryland	21.0%
California	19.7%
Virginia	19.3%
Connecticut	19.1%
Massachusetts	18.7%
North Carolina	17.1%
Colorado	16.9%
New Jersey	16.5%
Washington	13.2%
Minnesota	11.5%

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Higher Education Comparisons

State and Local Revenues per FTE: Research Universities (2003-04 Academic Year)

Minnesota	\$13,999
Connecticut	\$13,160
California	\$12,821
North Carolina	\$12,608
New Jersey	\$11,081
Maryland	\$10,916
Massachusetts	\$9,065
Washington	\$6,554
Virginia	\$6,398
Colorado	\$3,542

Tuition and Fees for Resident Undergrads, Flagship Research University (2005-06 Academic Year)

Massachusetts	\$9,278
New Jersey	\$9,237
Minnesota	\$8,622
Connecticut	\$7,912
Maryland	\$7,821
California	\$7,434
Virginia	\$7,180
Washington	\$5,385
Colorado	\$5,372
North Carolina	\$4,613

State and Local Revenues per FTE: Regional Universities (2003-04 Academic Year)

New Jersey	\$9,617
California	\$8,070
Connecticut	\$6,889
North Carolina	\$6,572
Maryland	\$5,692
Massachusetts	\$5,424
Virginia	\$5,077
Washington	\$4,648
Minnesota	\$4,486
Colorado	\$2,553

Tuition and Fees for Resident Undergrads, Regional Universities (2005-06 Academic Year)

New Jersey	\$8,653
Maryland	\$6,755
Connecticut	\$5,925
Virginia	\$5,906
Massachusetts	\$5,882
Minnesota	\$5,251
Washington	\$4,178
North Carolina	\$3,244
California	\$3,225
Colorado	\$3,212

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**State and Local Revenues per FTE:
Community/Technical Colleges
(2003-04 Academic Year)**

Connecticut	\$6,372
Maryland	\$6,132
California	\$6,046
North Carolina	\$6,000
Minnesota.....	\$4,333
Massachusetts.....	\$4,321
Washington	\$4,178
New Jersey	\$3,745
Virginia.....	\$3,203
Colorado	\$3,203

**Associate Degrees Awarded per 1,000
Population (2003-04 Academic Year)**

Washington	18
Minnesota.....	13.4
California	11.4
North Carolina	9.5
Colorado	9.4
Virginia.....	9
New Jersey	8.8
Massachusetts.....	8.7
Maryland	8.4
Connecticut	7.6

**Tuition and Fees for Resident
Undergrads, Community Colleges
(2005-06 Academic Year)**

Minnesota.....	\$4,042
Massachusetts.....	\$3,477
Maryland	\$3,057
New Jersey	\$2,934
Connecticut	\$2,536
Washington	\$2,445
Colorado	\$2,434
Virginia.....	\$2,135
North Carolina	\$1,264
California	\$780

**Percent with Associate Degree or
Higher (Age 25+) (2000)**

Massachusetts.....	40.40%
Colorado	39.70%
Connecticut	38.00%
Maryland	36.80%
Washington	35.80%
Minnesota.....	35.10%
Virginia.....	35.10%
New Jersey	35.00%
California	33.70%
North Carolina	29.20%

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Baccalaureate Degrees Awarded per 1,000 Population (2003-04 Academic Year)

Massachusetts.....	34.7
Connecticut	26.6
Minnesota.....	25.9
Colorado	23
Virginia	23
Maryland	22.3
North Carolina	21
Washington	20.7
New Jersey	18.9
California	18.2

Percent with Bachelor's or Higher (Age 25+) (2000)

Massachusetts.....	33.20%
Washington	27.70%
California	26.60%
Colorado	32.70%
Maryland	31.40%
New Jersey	29.80%
Connecticut	31.40%
Virginia.....	29.50%
Minnesota.....	27.40%
North Carolina	22.50%

Graduate and Professional Degrees Awarded per 1,000 Population (2003-04 Academic Year)

Massachusetts.....	26.3
Connecticut	16
Maryland	14.1
Minnesota.....	13.4
Colorado	11.2
Virginia.....	10
New Jersey	9.2
California	8.7
Washington	7.9
North Carolina	7.9

Percent with Graduate or Professional Degrees (2000)

Massachusetts.....	13.70%
Maryland	13.40%
Connecticut	13.30%
Virginia.....	11.60%
Colorado	11.10%
New Jersey	11.00%
California	9.50%
Washington	9.30%
Minnesota.....	8.30%
North Carolina	7.20%